

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD FOR DETECTING PATHOGENIC AGENTS

The invention provides methods and kits for collection of cervical/vaginal specimen. The specimen is collected for the purpose of detecting the presence or absence of etiological agents, *e.g.*, bacterial or viral agents, including but not limited to human papilloma virus (HPV). The endocervical cells is not required for HPV testing or Pap smear. The methods and kits allow the self-sampling without the aid of trained medical personnel.